

REMARKS

For the Examiner's convenience, Applicants have set forth the claims in this Preliminary Amendment to remove multiple and improper claim dependency. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the claims as presented in this Preliminary Amendment for examination purposes. Applicant submits that no new matter has been introduced by this Preliminary Amendment and entry is therefore respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP



John G. Smith

Registration No. 33,818

Dated: December 17, 2004

CUSTOMER NO. 009629

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

1111 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20004

202-739-3000